

# AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

PUBLISHED BY THE  
**AUSTRIAN INFORMATION SERVICE**

31 EAST 69th STREET • NEW YORK 21, N.Y. • TELEPHONE: LEHIGH 5-4120

VOL. VIII, NO. 22

December 24, 1955

## AUSTRIA UNANIMOUSLY ADMITTED AS UN MEMBER.

In accordance with a unanimous recommendation of the Security Council, the General Assembly of the United Nations, in its 555th plenary session held on December 14, 1955, voted to admit Austria, together with 15 other nations, to membership in the organization of the United Nations. Dr. Kurt Waldheim, Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, who until then had been permanent Austrian observer at the UN, was immediately accredited as Austrian Delegate to the organization. As of December 15, 1955, he took part in the subsequent sessions of the General Assembly as Delegate of the Republic of Austria.

The unanimous admission of Austria to the UN took place nearly 35 years to the day after her admission to the League of Nations, to which she was admitted, also by unanimous vote, on December 16, 1920.

## AUSTRIAN REACTIONS TO UN VOTE.

Immediately after

the announcement of Austria's admission to the United Nations, which was officially communicated to Foreign Minister Figl by UN General Secretary Dag Hammarskjold, the following comments were made by Austrian statesmen in connection with the development:

*Chancellor Julius Raab:* "The present day is a worthy addition to the series of important dates which have now become part of Austrian history. Admission to the United Nations has been welcomed by the Austrian people with particular joy as an international development of special

(Continued on page 2)

## AUSTRIAN NEUTRALITY RECOGNIZED BY BIG FOUR.

On December 6, 1955, the governments of the four signatory powers of the Austrian State Treaty, i.e. the United States, the United Kingdom, the French Republic and the Soviet Union, handed the Austrian Ambassadors in Washington, London, Paris and Moscow identical notes stating that the four signa-



Christmas Time In Austria

tories to the treaty had taken note of the constitutional law on Austrian neutrality and that they recognize the permanent neutrality of Austria as established under this law. The United States note reads as follows: "The Secretary of State presents his compliments to his Excellency the Ambassador of Austria and has the honor

to acknowledge receipt of the note of the Embassy of Austria dated November 14, 1955, informing him that the Austrian Parliament approved on October 26, 1955 the federal constitutional law relative to the neutrality of Austria, which entered into force November 5, 1955.

"The Secretary of State has the honor to inform the Austrian Ambassador, in compliance with the request expressed in the note under acknowledgement, that the Government of the United States has taken cognizance of this constitutional law and recognizes the perpetual neutrality of Austria as defined therein."

During recent weeks, nearly all European nations and overseas countries have likewise recognized Austria's permanent neutrality.

FULL TEXT OF "VIENNA MEMORANDUM"

Special Supplement

On Page 6

**UN Vote (Continued from page 1)**

significance for our country. It is obvious that for a country which has pledged itself to military neutrality, membership in the United Nations is necessarily a matter of special importance, since such membership is simultaneously a guarantee and a reemphasizing of her foreign policy. In terms of significance for our country, I would place the news of admission to the United Nations immediately after the signing of the State Treaty."

*Vice-Chancellor Adolf Schaerf:* "For Austria, admission to the United Nations means the culmination of her fight for freedom and independence. Following the signing of the State Treaty, this admission will not only enable her to pursue a policy of true and genuine neutrality but also to have a feeling of security in the society of nations."

*Foreign Minister Leopold Figl:* "Admission to the United Nations will find a strong response among all the Austrian people, since the basic idea of this organization, promotion of peace and international understanding, is very much alive among us. We submitted our application as early as 1947, in the confident awareness that the difficulties standing in the way of admission — which we were unable to help eliminate — would one day be overcome. We shall always adhere to the ideals of the United Nations and endeavor to act in accordance with them. In any event, the news of admission is a joyous message to the whole Austrian nation."

*Undersecretary Bruno Kreisky:* "The decision of the Security Council is doubly gratifying. It is gratifying to Austria because, as a result of this decision, she has been admitted to this great, universal community of nations. Over and beyond this, however, it is a gratifying sign that this year, which has been such a happy one for Austria, is coming to a close on a conciliatory note. The fact is that two unresolved problems of world politics have been settled during this year: the Austrian State Treaty and the long-pending question of broadening the membership of the United Nations. Perhaps the pessimists are mistaken, after all, in speaking about a new stiffening of the fronts in the 'Cold War.'"

**AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT PROPOSES OCCUPATION DAMAGES LAW.** The Austrian Government recently approved a draft for an Occupation Damages Law, which has now been submitted to Parliament for final decision. According to the provisions of the law, Austria will pay damages to those persons who, on the basis of requisitions, delivered goods or rendered services to occupation troops on Austrian soil or who have claims arising out of other damages. The draft recognizes three types of damage resulting from the occupation: damages to real estate or to rooms which were used for housing or maintenance of occupation troops; other damage to buildings resulting from the occupation; damage of household equipment. Since the period for submitting claims for damages will not begin until the law goes into effect, it may be assumed that a majority of the compensation payments will not be made until 1957 and 1958. A minimum of 80,000 damage claims are expected from the Soviet zone alone.

**AUSTRIAN ACCESSION TO EUROPEAN COUNCIL UNDER DISCUSSION.** According to a recent statement of a French spokesman in Paris, accession of Austria to the European Council has already been discussed by the foreign ministers of that organization's member nations. The speaker in question declared that a decision on the admission of Austria was imminent and that the matter was on the agenda of the next meeting of the Committee of Ministers.

**NATURALIZATION PERIOD FOR ETHNIC GERMANS EXTENDED.** Since there has recently been a marked increase in the number of Ethnic Germans interested in acquiring Austrian citizenship and submitting citizenship declarations, the Austrian Government has decided to extend the Federal Law relative to the acquisition of Austrian citizenship by Ethnic Germans, making it valid until June 30, 1956.

**FOUR GOVERNMENT MEMBERS AWARDED RENNER PRIZE.** The Board of Directors of the Dr. Karl Renner Foundation, in consultation with the Mayor of Vienna, have awarded this year's "Dr. Karl Renner Prize" to Chancellor Raab, Vice-Chancellor Schaerf, Foreign Minister Figl and Undersecretary Kreisky, thereby documenting the value of democratic collaboration in the restoration of the complete sovereignty of Austria. The Government members turned their prizes over to social-welfare and charitable organizations.

**AUSTRIAN FOREIGN SERVICE ACCOUNTS FOR ONLY 0.41% OF TOTAL BUDGET.** In the course of the debate on the budget in the Austrian Parliament, it was revealed that during the coming fiscal year Austria, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, would maintain 60 diplomatic and consular agencies and approximately 90 honorary consulates. However, in spite of the manifold assignments of the Foreign Service, its budget will represent only 0.41% of the total budget.

**AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT MEMBER REPORTS ON RUSSIAN TRIP.** Following his return from a trip through the Soviet Union, Parliament Member Maleta, General Secretary of the Austrian People's party, declared that, on the basis of the impressions gathered during his stay in Russia, he considered the following political principles to be applicable:

1. Conscientious adherence to international obligations voluntarily assumed by Austria: no signatory with the Austrian nation in any agreement, including the Soviet Union, should ever have the slightest doubt as to the trustworthiness of Austria's signature.
2. Despite, or precisely because of, the foregoing, there should be an open avowal of Austria's adherence to the Western-democratic form of life. There should be no obsequiousness toward, or flattery of, the Soviets, since such an attitude would be respected by no one.
3. An attitude of watchfulness and unity in the future, since the State Treaty is a protection only against external attacks on Austria.
4. Unqualified maintenance of domestic social peace by ensuring jobs, maintaining order in the wage-price structure

and increasing the share of broad sectors of the population in the national income.

5. Cultivation of patriotic self-awareness among Austrians since, despite its small size and population, the country has a record of great economic and cultural accomplishment which will bear comparison with that of the great powers in the East and the West.

**REMAINING MEMORANDA ON STATE TREATY PUBLISHED.** Among the events, in addition to the work of the Conference of Ambassadors in Vienna, which finally led to the signing of the Austrian State Treaty was the preparation of the three following memoranda:

1. The Moscow Memorandum of April 15, 1955, the contents of which were made known upon the signing of the State Treaty;

2. The Vienna Memorandum of May 10, 1955, relative to the United States and Great Britain;

3. The Austro-French Memorandum of May 10, 1955, relative to France.

These memoranda are not treaties between nations in the formal sense but aide-memoires concerning the results of conversations between representatives of the Austrian Government and of the signatory powers of the State Treaty, in which both sides undertake to see that specified decisions and measures are carried out by their respective governments.

The Moscow Memorandum contains the declaration, made on the occasion of the Berlin Conference in 1954, that Austria will join no military alliances and will not allow any military bases of foreign powers to be established on her territory. It also includes the well-known provisions concerning the repurchase of the oil fields and their installations, of the Danube Steamship Company and of the so-called "German assets" in the former Soviet zone of occupation in Austria.

The two other memoranda contain provisions relative to the protection of the legitimate rights and interests of subjects of the United States, Great Britain and France as well as of other United Nations member countries who have not subjected Austrian property to confiscatory measures, the said rights and interests being based on the principles of international law and on previous Austrian declarations. (See Special Supplement, pp. 6-8)

**NEW RECORDS IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION.** Austrian industrial production set a new record in October 1955, when it amounted to 240% of the figure for 1937. This production level is 10% higher than that of 1954. Particularly heavy increases were registered in the electrical, machinery and chemical industries. Employment also reached record heights at the end of October, as reflected in the figure of 2,147,000 workers registered for health insurance. The number of registered job-seekers was 78,000 and this figure is due largely to seasonal factors. Compared with 1954, the country's labor potential has increased by 58,000, a situation which is due primarily to the large number of young people graduating from school and, to a lesser degree, to job-seeking by women.

**AUSTRIA JOINS I.F.C.** Early in December Austria became the 21st nation to join the International Finance Corporation (I.F.C.), which has a capital of 100 million dollars and which finances private investment. Austria's share in the organization's capital amounts to \$554,000.

**FURTHER LIBERALIZATION AS OF JAN. 1, 1956.** According to a recent report delivered to the Austrian Cabinet by Minister of Commerce Illig, the withdrawal of the occupation troops from the country has brought to an end the special circumstances which Austria had previously to consider in drawing up her liberalization lists. Declaring that Austria would therefore be able to increase her liberalization quotas to 90%, the Minister indicated that the new quotas would become effective as of January 1, 1956. Exceptions in certain individual items where the liberalization would go into effect at a later date, although no later than June 1, 1956, would be made.

Under the measures which will become operative as of January 1, the Austrian liberalization quota will already have been raised to 88%. Among the products affected are copper, nickel and tungsten ores, synthetic rubber, gasoline with an octane content above 85, oil refinery installations, magnetophones, petroleum production installations, television transmitters, heaters and hoses for motor vehicles, X-ray films as well as numerous chemical products.



*The world-famous Vienna Choir Boys shown on their arrival in New York*

Compared with the same period last year, deposits in savings accounts have risen from approximately 7.5 billion schillings reaching the 10-billion mark for the first time. Deposits in checking accounts amounted to 16.7 billion schillings. On the other hand, the foreign and domestic currency reserves of the Bank of Issue have fallen to a value of approximately 8 billion schillings. The closing foreign trade figures in October 1955 were 2.11 billion schillings for imports and 1.75 billion for exports, representing a deficit of 360 million schillings.

**VOEST PRODUCES OVER 1 MILLION TONS OF OXYGEN-BLAST STEEL.** The United Austrian Iron and Steel Works (VOeST) in Linz, which two years ago initiated the production of steel by addition of oxygen, recently completed the millionth ton of crude steel produced by this Austrian oxygen-blast process. At the present time, a second converter, with a capacity of 30 tons, is being completed at VOeST, so that by the middle of 1956 the plant's annual production of blast steel will amount to approximately 1 million tons. VOeST engineers are currently working on the construction of an oxygen-blast steel plant in Rourkela (India).

Oxygen-blast steel is also being produced at the Donawitz Works of the Austrian Alpinen-Montangesellschaft. Outside the country, the process is now being applied in the United States, Canada and several European countries.

**HIGH QUOTATION ON AUSTRIAN LOANS IN SWITZERLAND.** According to the November 1955 report of the Swiss National Bank, the index of those Austrian loans officially quoted in Switzerland was 109.38% of the issue value as of the end of October 1955. This means that the Austrian loans occupy the most favorable position of any of the foreign loans quoted in Switzerland.

**INCREASED ACTIVITY ON AUSTRIAN FEDERAL RAILWAYS.** According to a recent announcement by Minister of Communications Waldbrunner, 2.5 million foreigners travelled to Austria by rail during the first three quarters of the present year, a figure which is exactly 25% higher than that for the same period in 1954. During the summer tourist season, the average traffic load for vacation trains was 80,000 miles a day.

Effective June 3, 1956, the Austrian Federal Railways will change from the present three-class system to the customary international arrangement of two-class passenger trains. At the same time, the first stretches of the Southern Line (from Vienna to Gloggnitz and from Villach to St. Veit) are to be electrified.

The Line's international schedule now includes direct sleeping-car accommodations between Vienna and Moscow.

The Federal Railways made available 298 trains, with a total of 12,000 cars, for the evacuation of the Soviet occupation troops from Austria. The eastward transportation of these troops was effected over a period of approximately five weeks, with an average of 8-10 trains per day.

**STEADY INCREASE IN PAPER FACTORY PRODUCTION.** Paper production in Austria during the third quarter of 1955 again approached the 100,000-ton mark, which means that the total production for the year will probably be close to

400,000 tons. Approximately 30% of the total amount of paper produced will be newsprint. Since Austria's newsprint requirements run to only 30,000 tons approximately more than 90,000 tons of newsprint will have been available for export during the present year. During the first 9 months of 1955, production of cellulose was over 302,000 tons, that of wood pulp 110,000 tons and that of cardboard over 64,000 tons.

The most important clients of the Austrian paper industry are Western Germany, Italy, Indonesia, Australia and Great Britain.

## CULTURE AND SCIENCE

**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULED FOR BAD GASTEIN IN 1956.** The success of the First International Symposium at Bad Gastein in 1954 has led to the scheduling of the second Symposium in the same city for the period of January 6-8, 1956. This meeting, which will be devoted to the subject of "Radioactive Isotopes in Clinical Work and Research," will be followed by a special course of the German Federal Physicians' Chamber, which will be held in Bad Gastein from March 11-24, 1956. Over 50 physicians from the United States, England, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, Greece, Denmark and Holland have already announced their intention of making reports at the Second Symposium on special problems of metabolism, circulation and localized radiation therapy.

**"INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THEATRICAL RESEARCH" IN VIENNA.** Representatives of nine European and overseas nations have started regular work in Vienna on the statutes for the new "International Society for Theatrical Research," which 21 nations have thus far announced their intention to join as members. The occasion for carrying on this preparatory work in connection with the new organization was provided by the European Theater Exhibition currently being held at Vienna University's Institute of Theatrical Arts.

**SYSTEMATIC COPYING OF ALL VALUABLE FRESCOES.** The numerous Romanesque and Gothic frescoes, both the individual works and the cycles, which have been conserved in very large numbers throughout Austria, represent one of the most important components of the country's artistic heritage. By decree of the Ministry of Education, the most important examples of medieval fresco painting in Austria are currently being copied. These include those frescoes which are in such poor condition that even conscientious restoration measures could not ensure their permanent conservation and the plan is to concentrate the copies in a museum, thereby providing valuable educational and illustrative material on the history of art as well as conveying artistic impressions of a special nature. In this copying process, it is not an original conception of the paintings which is being preserved but rather their present condition, characterized by damage from atmospheric conditions and age. During 1956, the copying activity will be concentrated in Salzburg, Tyrol, Styria and Carinthia.

**AUSTRIAN HIMALAYA EXPEDITION PLANNED FOR 1956.**

Early in 1956, an Austrian expedition will leave for Gasherbrum II, a huge Himalaya peak (height 26,400 ft.) which is still unconquered. The group is also planning to climb four other mountains in the Himalaya area, all of them with unclimbed peaks around the 25,000 ft. mark. The expedition will be led by an Austrian engineer, Fritz Morawec, who has already had experience in the Himalaya. The group will consist of six Austrian mountain climbers, one of whom is a physician and two others scientists. These expedition members are presently engaged in special training in the area of Austria's Grossglockner Mountain (12,461 ft.), acquiring special knowledge on the structure of snow and ice caverns and on crossing broad crevasses. In order to reduce difficulties with pack carriers, the expedition is planning to use a special wire-rope apparatus for pulling up supplies.

It is planned that the main expedition camp will be established about the middle of May on a site at the foot of Gasherbrum II, at a height of 17,400 ft.

**NEW BOOKS ON MOZART.** In connection with Mozart Year, which is to be celebrated in 1956, the Amalthea Publishing House in Vienna recently issued a new biography of the composer by Dr. Erich Schenk, Professor of Musicology at Vienna University, who has been actively engaged in Mozart research since 1929. The new work includes many hitherto unknown details about the life of Mozart and is based on years of study of archives in Austria and Italy.

The Province of Salzburg, through the "Vienna International" publishing house, has issued a commemorative Mozart monograph entitled "Salzburg-Vienna, Home of Mozart." The City of Salzburg is publishing a Mozart monograph of its own, entitled "Salzburg, the Beautiful City."

**JANUARY 27 TO BE "MUSIC DAY."** In connection with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart on January 27, 1956, the Ministry of Education has decided that January 27 of every year will henceforth be celebrated as "Music Day," in commemoration of this great musical genius of Austria. The Academies of Music and Fine Arts, as well as all other Austrian schools, especially those concerned with the teaching of music, will organize special musical events on this day with a view to calling the attention of their pupils to the significance of music. In so doing, they will lay particular emphasis on Austrian music.

**SUCCESSFUL PREMIERES IN VIENNA.** The recent premiere of Paul Hindemith's "Neues vom Tage," which the composer himself conducted at the Vienna Volksoper, had all the marks of an outstanding musical event and of an artistic success.

The Volkstheater has presented the first Vienna performance of "The Rainmaker" by R. Nash. The production was directed by Guenther Haehnel.

The Vienna Akademietheater recently presented the first performance of "Spanish Comedy" by Alexander Lernet-Holenia.

**PRICES AT VIENNA OPERA BACK TO NORMAL.** Since December 6, 1955, tickets for seats and standing room at the

Vienna State Opera have again been on sale at normal prices. For performances where the tickets are at "normal" prices, the cost of the cheapest seat (in the gallery) is 10 schillings, while the most expensive (in the boxes) cost 70 schillings. Prices for standing room range from 4 to 6 schillings. In the case of special performances "at increased prices," tickets are 20% higher. Purchase of tickets on a subscription basis offers a 20% discount.

**"TEA AND SYMPATHY" ACCLAIMED IN VIENNA.** Vienna's Theater in der Josephstadt recently gave a highly successful German-language performance of Robert Anderson's Broadway hit "Tea and Sympathy." Translated by H. H. Carvin, the Josephstadt production featured Susanne Almassy, Michael Lenz and Kurt Heintel in the lead roles.

**SUCCESSFUL TOUR OF VIENNA ACADEMIC CHAMBER CHORUS.** The great success of the Vienna Academic Chamber Chorus under its director, Dr. Guenther Theuring, during its recently completed guest tour through the United States and Canada has resulted in an invitation to the group and its conductor to make another concert tour of the U.S. and Canada during the 1956-57 season.

**VIENNA CHOIR BOYS BACK IN U.S.** The world-famous Vienna Choir Boys are currently on a tour of several months throughout the North American continent. They will make appearances in Canada and in practically every American state.

On their way to the United States, the group gave a concert in Paris. Since a strike of flight personnel prevented the conductor from reaching Paris in time, a 10-year-old Choir Boy took the podium to conduct most of the choral works on the program.

Another contingent of the Vienna Choir Boys recently left for a series of guest appearances in Japan. This is the first time that one of the Choir Boy groups is visiting the Far East.

**LEONIE RYSANECK AWARDED "SILVER ROSE."** For her performances as the Empress in Richard Strauss' "The Woman Without a Shadow" and as the heroine of Verdi's "Aida" in the gala performances celebrating the reopening of the Vienna State Opera, soprano Leonie Rysaneck was awarded the Vienna Philharmonic's "Silver Rose" — a distinction which has thus far been conferred upon only six women.

**DOCUMENTARY FILM ON AUSTRIAN BAROQUE ART COMPLETED.** A particularly successful documentary film entitled "Fischer von Erlach — Master of Austrian Baroque," was recently completed in Vienna by Dr. Lanzke. The film, which shows the master artist's work of this period of great architectural development, also features background music of Vienna's baroque period and a script by Dr. Loew.

**AUSTRIA INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CAMP FOR 1956 WINTER OLYMPICS.** A steady stream of foreign Olympic ski teams is arriving in Austria to train for the Olympic Winter Games of 1956. For example, in addition to the U.S. team, the Australian and British Alpine Olympic teams are currently training in the Arlberg area, as are members of the West German Alpine Olympic team.

## MEMORANDUM

*of the Results of Conversations Between the Members of the Austrian Federal Government and the Ambassadors of the United Kingdom and United States of America*

On the occasion of the Conference of the Ambassadors in Vienna with a view to the earliest possible conclusion of the Austrian State Treaty, there have been conversations between the Ambassadors of the United Kingdom and the United States and the Ministers of the Austrian Federal Government with the following results:

1. The two Ambassadors declared to the above-mentioned members of the Austrian Federal Government that the United Kingdom and the United States will transfer to Austria the property, rights and interests which are the subject of paragraph 11 of Article 35 of the State Treaty in its present form.

2. The two Ambassadors referred to the fact that the former German assets located in the American and British Zones were handed over to Austrian administrative control as long ago as 1946. In execution of their declaration of intention in 1949 to give to Austria the former German assets in Western Austria upon the coming into force of the Austrian State Treaty, their Governments have taken measures outside Austria for the recognition of Austrian future title to those assets.

3. These former German assets will be transferred to Austria by virtue of the Austrian State Treaty with the aim of strengthening the Austrian economy and in order to compensate Austria to a certain extent for its waiver of existing claims against Germany resulting from the period of occupation of Austria by Germany.

4. Such transfer will, furthermore, be made without payment or other consideration on the part of Austria to the UK and US.

**DATES SET FOR 1956 BREGENZ FESTIVAL.** The 1956 Bregenz Festival, which will feature Carl Milloecker's operetta "The Beggar Student" as its "play on the lake," is to run from July 19 to August 15. The program will also include a performance at the Bregenz Theater of Grillparzer's "King Ottokar's Rise and Fall," with the production and cast of the Vienna Burgtheater. Other highlights of the Festival will be performances of Nicolai's "The Merry Wives of Windsor," a group of concerts by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and a ballet series.

**SUCCESSFUL REBREEDING OF THE ALPINE IBEX.** Much attention is being devoted in Austria at the present time to the rebreeding of the ibex in various Alpine regions. Good results have been achieved in rebreeding these animals and setting them free in areas where the ibex has become extinct; especially in the provinces of Tyrol and Salzburg. In order to further this program, ibexes have recently been imported from protected natural areas south of the Alps in Italy.

5. The Ambassador of the US stated his understanding that his Government did not intend to remove the buildings erected by the US in Austria for occupation purposes, and that his Government would be prepared to consider promptly and sympathetically any proposals of the Austrian Government for the beneficial acquisition by Austria of these properties, fixtures and equipment.

6. The Ambassador of the United Kingdom confirmed that all married family quarters constructed at United Kingdom expense will be handed over to the Austrian authorities in a manner advantageous to Austria. Furthermore, his Government would be prepared to consider sympathetically a similar disposition of the fixtures and equipment belonging to the occupation forces of the UK in Austria.

7. The two Ambassadors further declared that with a view to expediting final agreement on the text of the State Treaty, they would support the Austrian Government in its efforts to attain possible changes in the State Treaty beneficial to Austria.

8. The Ambassador of the United Kingdom further agreed that he would, so far as he was able, support the deletion from the State Treaty of Annexes VIII and X at the request of the Austrian Delegation. It was explained that Austria would give effect to the provisions of these annexes in regard to the few cases which are involved by the conclusion of such bilateral arrangements as were necessary.

In view of the declarations of the Ambassadors of the United Kingdom and the United States of America, the above-mentioned Ministers of the Austrian Federal Government declare that they will see to it that as soon as possible after the coming into force of the State Treaty, but at the

**GASTEIN RADIUM EMANATION 30,000 TIMES NORMAL RATE.** According to a recent statement by Professor Ferdinand Scheminsky, balneologist at the University of Innsbruck, the therapeutic station of Bad Gastein's Underground Radium Center is among the most important therapeutic centers in Austria. With an atmospheric humidity of nearly 100% and a temperature of 105.8° F., the air in the Underground Radium Center contains 30,000 times the normal amount of radioactivity. Since the Gastein mineral water is also radioactive, the air in the center of the resort is 35-100 times more radioactive than elsewhere. For example, the bark on the city's trees is up to 10 times more radioactive than in other parts of Salzburg Province. According to Prof. Scheminsky, the radium-eminating zone surrounding Gastein constitutes an area of several square kilometers. The Professor indicated that one liter of Gastein water contains a radiation count equal to 180 nanocuries (it was Pierre Curie who, in 1904, first established that Gastein water was radioactive), which means that every second 37 radium-emitting atoms explode and emit their radioactive rays.

December 24, 1955

Austrian Information

Page 7

most within 21 months, unless differently stipulated below, the following decisions and measures will be brought about:

1. In view of the indirect 100 percent proprietary rights which the firms Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co. Ltd. and Socony Vacuum Oil Co. held before the coming into force of the State Treaty in the Lobau refinery and the Zistersdorf-Lobau pipelines, these assets will either be transferred to these firms directly, or to their subsidiary company, "Oesterreichische Mineraloelwerke". In case the Federal Government is prevented from carrying this out, it will give appropriate satisfaction to the above enterprises within the meaning of the declaration of November 29, 1949.

2. The firms Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co. Ltd. and Standard Oil Co. (N.J.) will, in view of their indirect 50 percent (25 percent each) participation in the Korneuburg refinery, held prior to the coming into force of the State Treaty, receive adequate satisfaction within the meaning of the declaration of November 29, 1949.

3. The firms Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co. Ltd. and Standard Oil Co. (N.J.) will, in view of their 50 percent (25 percent each) indirect participation in the distribution installations located in Eastern Austria of the "Deutschen Gasolin A.G." and "Gasolin Ges.m.b.H." receive compensation in the form of a transfer of the 50 percent German interests in the distribution-installations of the "Deutschen Gasolin A.G." and its subsidiary company "Gasolin Ges.m.b.H." in Western Austria.

4. For a possible U.S. 25 percent indirect participation in the "Hotel Nordbahn-Gesellschaft" (Northern Railroad Company Hotel, and a possible 5.06 percent British indirect participation in the "Osram Ges.m.b.H" (Osram Inc.), shares of the same intrinsic value in other commercially similar enterprises in Austria will be transferred. In case the Federal Government is not in a position to do so, those entitled will receive adequate compensation.

5. The Atzgersdorf Factory of the Austrian UNILEVER A.G., which is British/Dutch property, will be transferred to the Austrian UNILEVER A.G. as soon as possible.

6. The firms RAG, Van Sickie and possible Austrogasco and Steinberg-Naphta have lost free exploration rights to bitumen as a result of German legislation or as a result of alleged alienation within the meaning of the restitution legislation. In view of these facts and to give effect to the declarations of 29 November 1949, ZI. 89.095-Pol/49 and of 31 July 1951, ZI. 137.556-Pol/51, and the accompanying note, to the extent this has not been done already, the Austrian Government declares that it will enter into negotiations with these firms or their British, Canadian or American share owners who on 12 March 1938 held free exploration rights which they lost as a result of German legislation or through alienation within the meaning of the Austrian restitution laws, in order to reach a settlement satisfactory to the parties concerned.

In doing so, the Austrian Government does not intend to transfer into the ownership of the above firms properties in lists 1 and 2 of Article 35 of the Draft State Treaty in the version existing at the beginning of the Ambassadors' Con-

ference, except in the case of restitution cases within the meaning of the Austrian restitution legislation. In the case of RAG, however, the Austrian Government will seek in the first instance, in fulfillment of this undertaking, to make operating agreements mutually satisfactory to both sides for the purpose of developing Austrian oil resources.

7. A. The Ambassadors of the UK and US have declared as follows:

a) At the time of the promulgation of the Nationalization Law of 26 July 1946 (BGBl. No. 168), the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co. Ltd. and Socony Vacuum Oil Co. Inc., which are of British and U.S. Nationality respectively, were the direct or indirect owners of the shares of the Shell Floridsdorfer Mineraloelfabrik and of Vacuum Oil Co. respectively. All investments in these Austrian companies since the coming into force of the Nationalization Law were made exclusively by the parent companies or by the Austrian companies out of their own funds.

b) At the time of the promulgation of the Nationalization Law of 26 July 1946 (BGBl. No. 168), the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co. Ltd. and the Socony Vacuum Oil Inc., which are of British and U.S. Nationality respectively, were the direct or indirect owners of the shareholding rights in the Austrian Mineraloelwerke Ges.m.b.H. (Oe.M.W.).

c) At the time of the promulgation of the Nationalization Law of 26 July 1946, Socony Vacuum Oil Co. Inc. and the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co. Ltd., which are of U.S. and British nationality respectively, were the direct owners of the shares of the Rohoel Gewinnungs AG (RAG).

At the same time, Standard Oil Co. (N.J.), which is of U.S. Nationality, was the direct owner of shareholding rights in Austrogasco.

At the same time, Richard Keith van Sickie, a Canadian national, was the direct owner of the firm of Tiefbohrunternehmen R.K. van Sickie.

Since the coming into force of the Nationalization Law, all investments in RAG and Tiefbohrunternehmen R.K. van Sickie, were made exclusively by their parent companies (in case of the Tiefbohrunternehmen R.K. Van Sickie, the investments were by Mr. Richard Keith van Sickie) or by themselves out of their own resources.

B. Under the assumption that the cases are correctly described under Item A, the initially-named members of the Austrian Federal Government declare that they will see to it that the following measures are brought about by the Austrian Federal Government:

ad a): The share rights of the Austrian companies named under Item a) will be transferred to the property of the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co. Ltd. and of the Socony Vacuum Oil Co. respectively.

ad b): After the retention of shareholding rights which are equivalent to the investments made in the Oe.M.W. by other agencies than those named under Item b), the remaining shareholding rights in the Oe.M.W. will be transferred to the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co. Ltd. and the Socony Vacuum Oil Co. respectively; the extent of the shareholding rights to be given back is to be agreed with these companies.

ad c): The shares, and shareholding rights respectively, of the Austrian companies cited in Item c) will be transferred to the parent companies cited there and, in the case of the Tiefbohrunternehmen R.K. Keith van Sickle, to Mr. Richard van Sickle.

ad a - c:

Agreement has been reached that re-establishment of the property rights provided for in this Paragraph does not include the claims to rights in the areas formerly covered by exploration rights of the above-named companies and enterprises respectively, since the claims connected therewith are settled by the provisions of Paragraph 6.

8. The declaration of the Austrian Government of 21 September 1949 is confirmed. To make it clear, the Austrian Government declares that the measures for eliminating German property, rights and interests in the Western Zones of Austria and in the First District of Vienna will not impair the lawfully-acquired property, rights and interests located in these areas which are directly or indirectly due nationals of the United Nations according to the definition in Article 42, paragraph 8, of the State Treaty, nor such property, rights and interests which are to be restored according to Articles 42 and 44 of the State Treaty Draft or the present Austrian legislation.

In all cases, however, in which direct or indirect property, rights or interests in all of Austria of nationals of the United Nations (Article 42, Paragraph 8, of the Draft State Treaty) are affected by the Draft State Treaty, especially by Article 35, the Austrian Government, moreover, declares it is prepared to enter into negotiations with the respective

member-state of the United Nations for the purpose of concluding mutually satisfactory agreements concerning recognition of and satisfaction for such property, rights and interests.

This declaration does not apply to nationals of a country on the territory of which Austrian property is subject to measures of confiscation.

9. None of the above declarations should in the Austrian view be interpreted in such a way that any compensation whatsoever, whether in cash or by way of payment in kind or in goods, is to be granted for any loss of production or profit during the period from the beginning of the occupation of Austria by Germany up to three months after the taking over of effective control by Austria and in any case not later than three months after the end of the occupation or for damages or losses sustained during this period. Amounts which have been paid to the shareowners in the above-mentioned companies or to the owners of these enterprises for the transfer of their shares or for the assets and rights of the enterprises after 12 March 1938 are to be credited. On the other hand, the investments made by the original shareholders in nationalized companies or by the owners of these enterprises in spite of the nationalization of these enterprises after the coming into force of the Nationalization Law will be credited in assessing the value of their shares or their assets respectively. Increases in the value of the assets after 12 March 1938 originating from other than the original shareholders, are not to be credited in assessing the value of the shareholdings, but will be redeemed by the claimants in a way still to be agreed upon.

## AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

PUBLISHED BY THE

**AUSTRIAN INFORMATION SERVICE**

31 EAST 69th STREET • NEW YORK 21, N.Y. • TELEPHONE: LEHIGH 5-4120



Mr. R. Hill, Editor  
Music Library Notes Assn.  
Library of Congress  
Washington 25, D C

e 8  
con-  
cog-  
and  
oun-  
t to  
rian  
tion  
d or  
n or  
tion  
king  
ater  
for  
unts  
ove-  
ises  
ghts  
ited.  
inal  
rs of  
these  
ation  
ares  
? the  
n the  
sing  
y the

CEN  
IT TO  
de  
qu  
ele  
Di  
Gu  
go  
al  
giv  
of  
red  
to  
men  
it  
right  
men  
from